

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of an Office Action dated July 5, 2006. In this response Applicants have amended claims 2-6 and 8-11. Following entry of these amendments, claims 2-11, 13-22, and 24-33 are pending in the application.

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the remarks which follow.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 6, 13, 17, 24 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over alleged applicant admitted prior art (“AAPA”) in view of U.S. Patent 6,763,062 to Kohno et al. (“Kohno”). Claims 3, 5, 8, 10-11, 14, 16, 19, 21-22, 25, 27, 30 and 32-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of U.S. Patent 4,217,586 to McGuffin. Claims 4, 9, 15, 20, 26 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of McGuffin and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,028,901 to Huynh et al. (“Huynh”). Claims 7, 18 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Kohno and further in view of McGuffin. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 2 recites “an array parameter optimal value estimation unit configured to estimate an optimal value of said predetermined type of array parameter which optimizes the weight estimation performance of said adaptive array processor.” Thus in claim 2, the array parameter optimal value estimation unit is configured to estimate an optimal value of the predetermined type of array parameter. AAPA, which the Office Action relies on for disclosing this feature, fails to disclose or suggest any such estimation unit which estimates an optimal value of a predetermined type of array parameter.

AAPA does not disclose an estimation unit which estimates an optimal value of the predetermined type of array parameter. As described in the present specification, on page 3, lines 16-23, for conventional radio receiving devices using adaptive array processing, the array parameters are fixed or preset to predetermined values. Thus, the AAPA does not

disclose or suggest any estimation unit that estimates the optimal value of array parameters, because those parameters are fixed or preset.

Moreover, the presently claimed invention is directed to solving the problems caused by the fixed array parameters used in the AAPA systems by allowing for estimation of the optimal values of the array parameters. Such a concept is not contemplated by the AAPA.

The Office Action cites to page 3, line 24 to page 4, line 1 of the specification as disclosing array parameter optimal value estimation. The cited section, however, merely refers to the problem caused by array parameters fixed to predetermined values in conventional systems, but does not disclose that conventional systems included estimating the optimal value of array parameters.

Kohno, McGuffin and Huynh were cited for other features of the claims, but fail to cure the deficiencies of AAPA.

The remaining independent claims all include features corresponding to estimating an optimal value of a predetermined type of array parameter, and are thus patentable for reasons analogous to claim 2.

The dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as their respective independent claims, as well as for further patentable features recited therein.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. An early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions regarding the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment,

to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

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